

8.5.11 REGISTRATION OF SEX, DRUG & ARSON OFFENDERS

Convicted narcotics (drug), arson, and sex offenders shall be registered by the Department in accordance with State law at a time and place prescribed by the Chief of Police.

Narcotics Registrants

Pursuant to Section 11590 Health and Safety Code, upon release from State prison, county jail, or as directed by the court, individuals convicted of certain narcotics violations, will be instructed to register, within 30 days, with the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over their place of residence.

Once the registered individual moves within the same law enforcement jurisdiction they must, within 10 days, complete a change of address form, either by appointment or over the telephone.

Under the current requirements a narcotics registrant's responsibility to maintain their registration extends 5 years beyond their discharge from probation of parole.

Arson Registrants

Pursuant to Section 452 PC, upon release from State prison, county jail, or as directed by the court, individuals convicted of arson will be instructed to register, within 14 days, with the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over their place of residence. Once the registered individual moves within the same jurisdiction, they must complete a change of address form **within 10 days**, and only by appointment.

An Arson registrant's responsibility to maintain current registration is a lifetime requirement.

Sex Registrants

Pursuant to 290 PC, upon release from State prison, county jail, or as directed by the court, individuals convicted of certain sex offenses will be instructed to register with the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over their place of residence within 5 working days.

Once the registered individual moves within the same jurisdiction, they must complete a change of address form within 5 working days and do so by appointment only. If they move outside of their registered jurisdiction, they must register with their new jurisdiction and notify their old registered jurisdiction within 5 working days.

The registered sex offender must annually up-date their registration within 5 working days of their birthday.

A sex registrant's responsibility to ensure their registration is accurate and current is a lifetime requirement and failure to do so is punishable as a felony.

Procedure

Currently registration for narcotics, arson, and sex violators is by appointment only through the Family Services Section, Registration Unit. Appointments can be made by telephoning (562) 570 5692 between the hours of 0730 and 1600 Monday through Friday.

8.5.11.1 SEX OFFENDER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION (MEGAN'S LAW) POLICY

California Penal Code, Section 290.4 was enacted in January 1997, and is commonly referred to as "Megan's Law." This law obligates municipal police departments of cities with populations of more than 200,000, such as the Long Beach Police Department, to provide access to the database containing information on registered sex offenders to the public for viewing. The database is obtained from the California Department of Justice and personnel in the Community Relations Division shall supervise its use.

PROCEDURES

The computer containing information on registered sex offenders is located in the Community Relations Division. Members of the public may view the information as follows:

- The Megan's Law Database is available for public access on a walk in basis Monday – Friday 0800-1700. Individual viewing may be limited to 15 minutes, depending on public demand and the workload of personnel in the Community Relations Division.

To view the Database information, the applicant must comply with the following:

- Present valid identification in the form of a California Driver's License or California Identification Card
- Sign a statement on the "Request to View Sexual Offender Identification Information" form (BCIA 4078, 4/97) provided by the Department of Justice, stating that:
 - The applicant is not a registered sex offender
 - The applicant understands the purpose of the release of information is to allow members of the public to protect themselves and their children from sex offenders
 - The applicant understands the information from the database may not be reproduced mechanically or photographically by the public; however, handwritten notes are allowed
 - The applicant understands it is unlawful to use information obtained from the database to commit a crime against a registrant, or engage in illegal

discrimination or harassment of any registrant. (A copy of the signed statement may be provided to the applicant)

The Community Relations Division shall maintain the register of applicants and the signed statement by the applicant who wishes to view the database information in a file for five years. The records of persons requesting to view the database are confidential and not subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act. Copies of applications concerning requests to view the database may be disclosed to law enforcement agencies for law enforcement purposes.

Department personnel shall not provide any sex registration information by telephone, except to law enforcement personnel for law enforcement purposes. Refer telephone inquiries to the Department of Justice at (900) 463-0400.

Department personnel can view the database information for law enforcement purposes during normal business hours by contacting the Sex Crimes Detail. If an emergency occurs during non-business hours, which requires database access, contact the Sex Crimes Detail Sergeant or on-call SART Detective.

Department personnel shall not disseminate any information obtained from the database in any area outside the City limits of Long Beach without the permission of the Detective Division Commander or Deputy Chief, and the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction of the locale to be notified.

An offender's registration status and classification may be verified anytime by accessing CLETS, Violent Crime Information Network.

See also TB #218 "Sex Offender Status – Community & Individual Notification (Megan's Law)